

Strategic Plan Fund 2012

Project Progress Report

Deadline: June 1

Project Leader_Cecilia Arriaza

Location _Fullerton College

Funding received:

1. **Description:** Northern California University Tour
2. **Amount** \$2,500

Describe how the funds were used to achieve a specific Action Plan or initiative.

The funds were used to cover a portion of the cost for bus transportation for the Northern California University Tour. This project addresses the NOCCCD Strategic Direction 1. "NOCCCD will annually improve the rates of completion for degrees, certificates, diplomas, transfers, transfer-readiness requirements, and courses."

The Northern California University Tour is designed to enable Fullerton College students to explore the possibilities of continuing their education outside of Southern California. Forty-eight students were selected from a pool of 84 applicants by a committee that represents various programs on Fullerton College's campus. These entities included the Cadena/Transfer center, International Students Center, Transfer Achievement Program and Honors. The students represented various ethnic/racial backgrounds, 2% were African American, 8% were Caucasian, 42% were Hispanic/Latino, 33% Asian/Pacific Islander, 4% Other and 10% decided not to specify. 56% of the students were female, 40% were male. More than half (28) of the students had yet to apply for transfer; while 20 had applied to transfer to one or more campuses on the tour.

The universities visited on the tour included: UC Berkeley, UC Davis, UC Merced, UC Santa Cruz and CSU San Francisco. In addition to the campus tours, students received admissions presentations and had the opportunity to meet with Fullerton College transfer students currently attending the campuses. Students also participated in a Chinatown heritage walk led by docents from the Chinese Culture Center of San Francisco. Overall, students had a positive and informative experience which will allow them to make a more educated decision about whether to apply to or accept an admissions offer from (for those students who had already applied) an out of area university, thereby increasing the likelihood that they will be successful in their transfer process.

Strategic Plan Fund 2012

Attach evidence that indicates that the Action Plan or initiative was accomplished.

Students who had yet to apply for transfer stated that they were highly likely to apply to UC Berkeley and UC Davis. Only 25 out of the 48 participants responded to a follow up survey requesting information on their transfer status. Fourteen students had not yet transferred but were still enrolled at Fullerton College; and 9 out of the 10 students ready to apply for Fall 2014 indicated that they were very likely to apply to a northern California campus. Nine of the students we were able to contact indicated they had planned to transfer in fall 2013 (or Spring 14): 1 to CSUF, 1 to UC Berkeley, 3 to UCI, 1 to UC San Diego, and 2 to UC Santa Cruz.

Describe future plans for this project and how it is being sustained. Include personnel, maintenance, facilities and infrastructure considerations. If this project is not to be sustained, please so indicate.

While this is an extremely valuable experience for students, the monetary costs and personnel required to coordinate this event make it difficult to sustain on a yearly basis. Currently the Transfer Center is experiencing staffing transitions. A determination is yet to be made about pursuing external sources of funding again in order to hold a Northern University Tour this spring, and it may need to be postponed to summer or next year.

Describe the impact to students.

Students were administered a pre and post-test to their knowledge of transfer requirements. This assessment indicated a slight increase in knowledge of requirements after the tour, as students answered 68% of transfer questions correctly prior to the event and 76% afterwards.

Anecdotally, students shared that the trip was helpful and provided positive impressions of campuses that they have not explored. Additionally, in the comments section many students indicated that they would share their experience with their peers and that NCTE should continue to be offered. Below are a few quotes from students who participated:

“I enjoyed this travel with an amazing school friend! I got much information of each school... Thank you for giving us such an amazing chance.”

“The trip was very helpful and gave me positive impressions on campuses that I never looked into. I will tell my friends about each campus when I go back.”

“We should have more trips like this, very helpful. Thank you.”

“The tour was highly enjoyable and informative.”

Strategic Plan Fund 2012

Identify the evaluation process for continuous improvement.

Participants were asked to provide feedback on how to improve the Northern California University Tour. One suggestion was to increase the trip for a day. This would allow for exploration of at least one additional campus at a less hectic pace/schedule. Students suggested the addition of campuses such as UC Santa Barbara, CSU East Bay, CSU Monterey Bay, University of San Francisco, or Stanford. A significant finding was that many participants (16) requested that UC Santa Barbara to be included during the University Tour in the future. In addition students indicated they would have preferred more time to be spent at UC Berkeley and UC Santa Cruz.